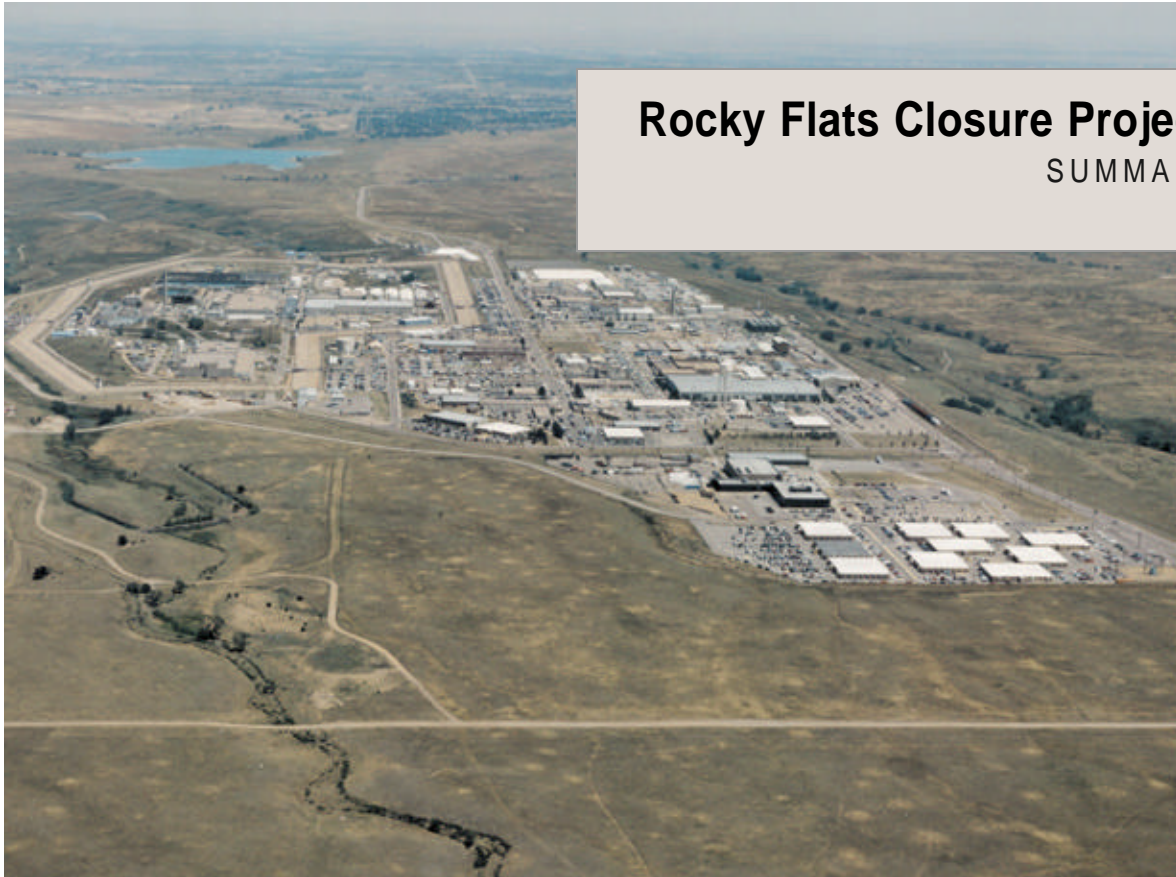


Rocky Flats Closure Project

SUMMARY



The Rocky Flats Environmental Technology Site is a Department of Energy cleanup site on a path toward accelerated closure. Historically, Rocky Flats manufactured nuclear weapons components for the U.S. arsenal.

The Site

Rocky Flats is located 15 miles northwest of Denver and within 50 miles of 2.5 million people. The site consists of more than 700 structures located on a 385-acre "Industrial Area" and surrounded by 6,000 acres of controlled open space called the Buffer Zone.

The Schedule

As recently as 1995, the cleanup of Rocky Flats was estimated to cost between \$22 and \$36 billion and take some 70 years to complete. Today, DOE and the site integrating management contractor Kaiser-Hill are committed to do better by accelerating closure to reach the closure goal of 2006 for a cost of less than \$7 billion.

The Mission

Make It Safe. Clean It Up. Close It Down.

The Work

In order to accomplish the safe and accelerated closure of Rocky Flats, significant progress must continue to be made in each of five major work areas.

Special Nuclear Materials Stabilization, Consolidation and Repackaging – The site had many tons of radioactive plutonium and uranium which was put into a safe form, consolidated to reduce costs, repackaged into safe long-term packaging and then sent offsite for storage or disposal. All of this weapons-useable material was shipped offsite by August 2003. The removal of the weapons-usable material at the site, a full 12 years ahead of schedule, reduces one of the greatest risks to human, health, and the environment. The material is a candidate to be turned into fuel for nuclear reactors, thereby meeting a key nonproliferation goal of the United States.



Facility Deactivation and Decommissioning – Current plans call for all of the 805 structures and facilities at the site to be dismantled and removed. But first the buildings, many of which contain radioactive and/or chemical contamination, must be cleaned up.

Environmental cleanup – The site has more than 170 areas of suspected contamination – the majority of which are expected to



be closed out after appropriate evaluation with no significant action. However, some 25 of the top priority contamination sites are expected to require significant cleanup

action. These sites include areas of past chemical and radioactive contamination in the environment at Rocky Flats.

Offsite shipment – The offsite shipment of thousands of drums of radioactive and hazardous waste and many tons of plutonium and uranium is a key component to the closure of the site. The availability of places to receive Rocky Flats waste and material is crucial.

Property and document disposition – In order to reach closure, the site must rid itself of millions of pages of classified documents and more than 600,000 items of excess property and equipment. Property is either dispositioned through sale, recycle or reuse at other facilities, or is disposed of as waste.



U.S. Department of Energy

Make It Safe. Clean It Up. Close It Down.



For further information about Rocky Flats

Contact DOE Communication at (303) 966-4546, or Kaiser-Hill Communication at (303) 966-2882

Also, additional information about Rocky Flats is available on the internet at: <http://www.rfets.gov>